THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Central Government has agreed "in-principle' to provide funds to the extent of 50% of the project cost for construction of Mughal Road. The feasibilty study of the project is however under progress by Government of J&K. The estimate of the project has not yet been prepared and submitted to Central Government. The work can be taken up only after sanction of the estimate.

Meeting of National Road Safety Council

2475. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting of the National Road Safety Council under his Chairmanship was held in June, 2001; and

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b)Yes sir. The meeting of Sixth National Road Safety Council was held on 21st June, 2001. Some of the main recommendations related to:

(i) Provision of refresher training to the drivers particularly those of heavy vehicles;

(ii) Establishment of branch of CIRT, Pune at Jammu;

(iii) Minimum educational qualifications for drivers;

(iv) Setting up of specialized driver training school;

(v) Road Safety Education to be a subject at school level;

(vi) Proper maintenance and fitness of vehicles;

(vii) Improvement in truck and bus body design;

(viii) Poor readability of number plates on vehicles;

(ix) Stricter punishment for violation of motor Vehicles Rules;

(x) Use of fog lights to be mandated in bad weather;

(xi) Fixing a minimum experience of at least 3 to 4 years of driving a motor vehicle as well as an upper age-limit may be prescribed for issue of driving licenses for heavy vehicles;

(xii) Strict punishment for drunken driving;

(xiii) Problem of overloading;

(xiv) Use of interceptors to check traffic, violations;

(xv) Computerization of driving licenses/RC/books/maintenance of proper and updated data base;

(xvi) Fitting of speed governors;

(xvii) Extension of central scheme for giving ambulances;

(xviii) Increase in budget for road safety; etc.

Naini Bridge in Allahabad

2476. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Naini Bridge over Yamuna river at Allahabad with approach road of N.H.-27 in U.P. has not been completed as yet and as a result thereof the extimated cost of the project has increased terribly;

(b) if so, the original estimated cost and likely cost of its completion; and

(c) by when, the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) The work on Naini Bridge over river yamuna with approaches on National Highway-27 was started in October, 2000 and is